AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Combination of R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecyl-carbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and ~~met~~-forming metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Withdrawn) Method for the treatment of type 2 diabetes comprising the administration of the combination according to claim 1.

4. (Withdrawn) Method for controlling glycaemia over the 24 hour period by administering the combination according to claim 1.

5. (Withdrawn) Method according to claim 4, wherein glycaemia is controlled far from mealtimes, and in postabsorption and fasting conditions.

6. (Withdrawn) Method according to claim 3 wherein said combination being devoid of the side effects typical of the individual components of said combination or having only substantially reduced side effects of that type.

7. (Withdrawn) Method according to claim 6, where said combination is used for the treatment of diabetic patients for whom metformin is contraindicated or inadvisable.

8. (Withdrawn) Method according to claim 6, where said combination is indicated in patients suffering from one or more complications belonging to the group consisting of kidney damage, cardiac insufficiency, chronic liver damage, clinical proteinuria, peripheral vascular damage or lung damage.

9. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition containing the combination according to claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing subpharmacological doses of ~~R-4-trimethyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcar- bamoyl)-aminobutyrate~~R-4-trimethyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcarbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and of metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, respectively.

11. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing pharmacological doses of R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecylcarbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and subpharmaceutical doses of metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

12. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing subpharmacological doses of R-4-trimetyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcarbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and pharmacological doses of metformin or one of its pharmacologically acceptable salts, respectively.

13. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing pharmacological doses of ~~R-4-trimetyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcarbamoyl)-aminobutyrate~~R-4-trimetyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcarbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and pharmacological doses of metformin or one of its pharmacologically acceptable salts, respectively.

14. (Currently Amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing ~~R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecyl-carbamoyl)-aminobutyrate~~R-4-trimethylammonio-3-

(tetradecylcarbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts in a single dosage form.

15. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, where one dosage unit is suitable for the therapeutic coverage of the nocturnal fasting period.

16. (Previously Presented) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, in which ST 1326 is present at a dose ranging from 10 mg to 1 g or an equivalent dose of one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, and metformin is present at a dose ranging from 50 mg to 2.5 g or an equivalent dose of one of its pharmaceutically equivalent salts.

17. (New) Combination of R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecyl-carbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts in a subpharmaceutical dose and metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts in a subpharmaceutical dose.